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## National Intelligence Bulletin

July 23, 1975

### ANGOLA

A military drive on Luanda by the National Front for the Liberation of Angola, launched last weekend from its tribal base in northern Angola, has become stalled in the vicinity of Caxito, some 40 miles northeast of the capital. This area is dominated by the rival Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, and the National Front may not be able to muster the resources necessary to push through to Luanda, from which it was largely driven out last week.

The Front, which in recent months has not been able to match the equipment and arms received by the Popular Movement, has obtained some additional Chinese equipment from Zaire. Peking recently authorized Kinshasa to release equipment to the Front it has provided for the Zairian army; the Chinese promised to replace the materiel. So far, however, Zaire probably has passed on only modest quantities of small arms and ammunition, and perhaps some vehicles.

The skirmishing in Caxito apparently has convinced the authorities in Luanda that the Front intends to fight its way back into the capital. The Portuguese armed forces commander has ordered his troops to establish a perimeter around the city to protect it against an offensive by the Front. Ostensibly, the commander hopes to avert further bloodshed in the city. In effect, however, his plan will help defend the city for the Popular Movement if the National Front breaks through at Caxito and continues its march.

The Front apparently still has some troops in the Luanda area. They have barricaded themselves in an industrial complex just north of the city. The Popular Movement forces are holding back from a final attempt to dislodge the Front troops because the latter are holding prisoners belonging to the Popular Movement.

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